

## Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-10 SAM-01 SAJ-01 /080 W

----- 123493

R 201118Z DEC 74

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 780

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 222

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, U.K. (N.I.)

SUBJECT: HOPES GROW FOR PROVO CEASEFIRE

REF: BELFAST 220

1. NEWS THAT ONE CLERGYMAN WHO MET WITH SECSTATE REES DEC. 18 PROCEED TO DUBLIN FOR MEETING WITH PROVISIONAL IRA LEADER DAVID O'CONNELL DEC. 19 HAD TWO EFFECTS NORTHERN IRELAND: (A) IT HAS ENCOURAGED HOPES PROVISIONALS WILL DECLARE CEASE-FIRE AND (B) IT HAS INTENSIFIED VOCAL LOYALIST SUPICION OF NATURE "NEGOTIATIONS".

2. CONSENSUS RUMORS IS: (A) THAT PROVISIONALS WILL DECLARE CEASE FIRE EFFECTIVE MIDNIGHT SUNDAY DEC. 22 FOR ONE WEEK AND (B) THAT "IMPRESSIONS OBTAINED" BY CLERGYMEN ABOUT GOVERNMENT RESPONSE INCLUDE RELEASE SIZEABLE NUMBER DETAINEES, REDUCTION OF NUMBERS ARMY PERSONNEL ON STREETS AND SUSPENSION REGULAR MASS SEARCHES BY MILITARY OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN ROMAN CATHOLIC AREAS. LAST "IMPRESSION" HAS NOT RPT NOT BEEN INCLUDED IN PREVIOUS SPECULATION ABOUT WHAT GOVERNMENT WOULD DO IN RESPONSE TO CEASE FIRE DECLARATION BY PROVOS.

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3. SO FAR LOYALISTS HARRY WEST, WILLIAM CRAIG AND IAN PAISLEY

HAVE REACTED WITH SUSPICION THAT CLERGYMEN "NEGOTIATING" ON  
BEHALF HMG WITH PROVISIONAL IRA. WEST WHO HEADS OFFICIAL  
UNIONISTS WARNED OF POPULAR REACTION ULSTER AGAINST "PEACE AT  
ANY PRICE" PACKAGE.  
SPICER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Draft Date:** 20 DEC 1974  
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**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**To:** STATE  
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